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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 13 2001

In re Application Of:

MOSKOWITZ, Scott, et al.

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)
) Group Art Unit: 2132

Application Number: 08/999,766

)
) Examiner: MEISLAHN, D.

Filed: July 23, 1997

For: Steganographic Method and
Device

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Response and Amendment is submitted in response to an interview on December 4, 2001. It is believed that no fees are required to ensure entry and consideration of this response. However, if any fees are required with the filing of this response, Applicants respectfully request that any such fees be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1129.

REMARKS

Applicant's representative thanks Examiners G. Hayes and D. Meislahn for the interview extended on December 4, 2001. As discussed in the interview, the status of the case is that the Examiner has withdrawn the office action dated March 27, 2001, has agreed to consider Applicant's arguments, including a proposed definition for "stega-cipher," and Examiner will then issue a new office action that will make clear the status of Bender (a article entitled Techniques for Data Hiding SPIE Vol. 2420, pp. 164-173) and other references (namely, the following references: "A Signal Theoretic Method for Creating Forgery-Proof Documents for Automatic Verification" by Szepanski; "Authentication System Using Concealed Image in